

C O S F O R D R U R A L D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

W E S T S U F F O L K

R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

together with the Report of the

P U B L I C H E A L T H I N S P E C T O R

for the Year

1961



DR. E. KINNEAR, M.B., CL.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Committee

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F. G. W. Letts, Esq. - Vice-Chairman

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MR. C. A. DURRANT - CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
of the

Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District of Cosford in the County of West Suffolk for the year ending 31st December, 1961.

Sudbury 2855

To the Chairman and Members of the
Rural District Council of Cosford

October 1962.

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health together with the report of the Public Health Inspector on the Public Health Services for the year 1961.

Thanks are due to Dr. D. A. McCracken, M.D., D.P.H., the County Medical Officer of Health, who acted as your Medical Officer of Health following the untimely death of Dr. G. B. Barclay. I am grateful to Dr. McCracken for his assistance in the preparation of this report.

Thanks are due also to the Clerk of the Council, Mr. C. A. Durrant, the Public Health Inspector, Mr. G. H. Hine and The Additional Public Health Inspector, Mr. D. P. Carpenter, for their work during the year.

I would like to express my appreciation of your kind welcome to me, on taking up my appointment.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

E. KINNEAR

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Officers of the Authority during 1961.

- (a) Medical - One part-time Medical Officer of Health,
DR. G. P. BARCLAY, M.B., CL.B., D.P.H.
(Appointed April 1960. Died January 1962).

This Officer did not engage in private practice but held in addition the following appointments:-

Medical Officer of Health - Borough of Sudbury
Hadleigh U.D.C.
Melford R.D.C.
Thedwastre R.D.C.

Assistant County Medical Officer }
School Medical Officer } West Suffolk County Council.

- (b) Others - One Public Health Inspector,
G. H. HINE, Meat & Other Foods.
Certificate R.S.I.
Appointed 1st May, 1947.

Mr. Hine is also Surveyor to the Council.

One Additional Public Health Inspector,
E. A. PANKS, M.A.P.H.I., Meat & Other Foods.
Certificate R.S.I., M.Inst. Housing.
Appointed 17th July, 1947. Resigned 31st July, 1961.

D. P. CARPENTER, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Appointed 1st August, 1961.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

1. GENERAL STATISTICS	Area	...	...	...	...	48,530 acres.
Registrar General's estimate of the resident population	1961	(1960)	(1959)			
	9,050	(9,360)	(9,410)			
Number of inhabited houses at end of year according to Rate Book	3,350	(3,300)	(3,355)			
Rateable Value	£75,527.	(£73,361)	(£72,851)			
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£292 17.5.	(£80 17.5.)	£280)			

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

LIVE BIRTHS				Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	(60) 51	(59) 59	(119) 110
Illegitimate	...	...	...	(3) 3	(4) 3	(7) 6
Totals:				(63) 54	(63) 62	(126) 116

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	(13.5) 12.8
Corrected Birth Rate (Comparability Factor 1.14) ..	...	...	...	(15.3) 14.6
Birth Rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales)	...	...	...	(17.1) 17.4

STILLBIRTHS				Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	(3) 1	(1) 1	(4) 2
Illegitimate	...	...	...	- -	- -	- -
Totals:				(3) 1	(1) 1	(4) 2

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths	...	...	...	(33.3) 16.9
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths (England and Wales) ..	...	...	...	(19.7) 19.1

TOTAL LIVE AND STILLBIRTHS				Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	(63) 52	(63) 60	(126) 112
Illegitimate	...	...	...	(3) 3	(4) 3	(7) 6
Totals:				(66) 55	(67) 63	(133) 118

INFANT MORTALITY. Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age						
Legitimate	...	...	...	(1) -	(1) -	(2) -
Illegitimate	- -	- -	- -
Totals:				(1) -	(1) -	(2) -

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births (Total)	Nil
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Neo-Natal

(Deaths of Infants during the first four weeks of life)	Nil
Illegitimate Birth Rate	5.1 (5.5%)
Maternal Deaths (including abortion)	...	...	...	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths	...	...	...	Nil
<u>Deaths</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	(53)	56	(56)	60
			(109)	116
Death Rate per 1,000 population	...		(11.7)	12.8
Corrected Death Rate (Comparability Factor .81)			(9.4)	10.4
Death Rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales)			(11.5)	12.0

	COMPARATIVE		VITAL		STATISTICS				
	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	
Birth Rate (Corrected)	16.5	15.9	14.7	15.7	12.8	16.5	15.3	14.6	
Death Rate (Corrected)	9.6	11.4	12.7	9.72	10.5	9.8	9.4	10.4	
Infant Mortality Rate	59.7	61.1	25.0	30.8	9.4	7.3	15.0	Nil	
Number of Infant Deaths	6	8	3	4	1	1	2	Nil	

These vital statistics show -

- (1) A decline in the population as estimated by the Registrar General (310 persons : 3.3% decrease) on the previous year.
- (2) The birth rate was slightly below the previous year, and substantially below the national birth rate (10 fewer babies were born).
- (3) The illegitimate birth rate was virtually unchanged (6 babies in 1961: 7 in 1960).
- (4) There were no maternal deaths and no deaths of infants under one year.
- (5) The corrected death rate was lower than the national death rate.

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The table following gives the causes and the number of deaths occurring during 1961. The grand totals correspond with the Registrar General's figures.

	TOTAL		MALES		FEMALES	
	1961	1960	1961	1960	1961	1960
<u>ALL CAUSES:</u>	116	109	56	53	60	56
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-	-	-	1	-
2. Tuberculosis, Other	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	3	2	2	-	1
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	4	5	3	5	1	-
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	2	4	-	-	2	4
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	-	-	-	-	-
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	13	10	5	5	8	5
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1	1	-	-	1
16. Diabetes	-	1	-	1	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	24	15	7	7	17	8
18. Coronary disease, angina	21	25	12	14	9	11
19. Hypertension with heart disease	5	4	2	1	3	3
20. Other Heart Disease	16	14	10	21	6	12
21. Other Circulatory disease	5	2	2	2	3	-
22. Influenza	2	-	1	-	1	-
23. Pneumonia	7	5	4	2	3	3
24. Bronchitis	8	7	7	5	1	2
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	-	2	-	-	-	2
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	1	-	1	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-	-	-	1	-
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	-	-	-	1	-
29. Nyperplasia of Prostate	-	1	-	1	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	-	-	-	-	-	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	6	-	3	2	3
33. Motor vehicle accidents	-	1	-	1	-	-
34. All other accidents	1	-	-	-	1	-
35. Suicide	-	1	-	1	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-	-	-	-

Neoplasms, all types;

<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	
21	10	11	18.1%

Vascular diseases, including strokes:

<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	
71	33	38	61.2%

Respiratory diseases:

<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	
18	12	6	15.5%

Deaths from infectious diseases were low. The high proportion of deaths from arterios disease, heart disease and degenerative diseases occur mainly in the elderly. The larger number of women dying from strokes does not indicate any weakness of constitution but rather their ability to outlive their male contemporaries, into extreme old age.

Diseases, other than lung carcinoma, involving the respiratory organs form a substantial group (18 deaths: 15.5%).

There were 4 deaths from lung cancer (3 males and 1 female).

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SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES. The Public Health Laboratory Service, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge, under the directorship of Dr. R. M. Fry, provides an excellent bacteriological service and advises on any epidemiological or similar problem.

Dr. S. Greenburgh, Public Analyst, Tenison Road, Cambridge gives a similar efficient, helpful service when chemical analyses are required.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES. These services since July 1953 have been provided directly by the County Council under the direction of the County Medical Officer of Health.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME. The West Suffolk County Council District Nurse-Midwives carry out these duties.

(d) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES. The West Suffolk County Council hold Infant Welfare Clinics at the following centres in Cosford:-

Bildeston - Chapel School Room	...	1st Wednesday in each month.
Lavenham - Guildhall	...	2nd Tuesday in each month.

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SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. (a) WATER The District is supplied with water by a comprehensive scheme serving all parishes. Almost all the supply is obtained from the main headworks at Semer.

The headworks comprise twin boreholes lined with steel guide tubes to a depth of 145 feet and 24" diameter slotted steel lining tubes to a depth of 400 feet with pumping plant in duplicate. The boreholes commence at 96 feet below the surface and from this depth the boreholes are in chalk down to the final depth of 400 feet. The main source of water is obtained at about 345 feet where a narrow belt of flints is embedded in the chalk.

The quantity of water ascertained by continuous pumping during 10 days, was some 857,000 gallons per day.

The mains are linked with those of the Thingoe and Gipping Rural Districts and in times of emergency a supply can be afforded to the whole of this district from the Thingoe R.D.C.

An extension of the mains in small diameter pipe to serve the Burnt Hall, Whatfield area and an extension in 3" diameter pipe to Crowcroft Road, Nedging-with-Naughton were both completed during the year.

The following table shows the water produced at the Semer works and supplied to the Gipping R.D.C. and the Air Ministry each month:-

Month	Water pumped from Semer Bore in 000 galls.	Water Supplied to Gipping R.D.C. in 000 galls.	Water Supplied to Air Ministry in 000 galls.
January	10,762	1,212	} 6,600 estimated
February	9,587	714	
March	10,986	813	
April	10,484	870	
May	11,419	790	2,460
June	13,452	1,007	1,926
July	13,384	1,056	2,314
August	11,989	788	2,392
September	10,960	1,066	2,085
October	11,672	772	2,386
November	10,772	802	2,244
December	12,164	919	2,676
Total:	137,631	10,809	3,118

It will be seen that the demand from the Gipping R.D.C. has decreased following the establishment of their own headworks. Only the fringe of the Gipping area is now supplied from the Semer works. The average daily pumping figures at Semer are 377,000 gallons. The amount of water taken from the Thingoe R.D.C. averages approximately 10,000 gallons per day.

42 samples of water were submitted for bacteriological analysis during the year. 35 of these were from the mains and 7 from private sources. Those from the mains were all reported to be satisfactory; of the 7 from the private sources, 3 were satisfactory and 4 were unsatisfactory. 1 sample of water was taken from Semer Pumping Station for analysis and this was reported to be satisfactory.

The following table shows the positions with regard to water connections as at 31st December, 1961. The improvement during the last year has been gradual. 54 new connections have been made to the mains.

Total	Total Houses	Houses Connected	Stand-pipe	On Route but Not Connected	Not on Route of Mains
Aldham	50	46	-	-	4
Bildeston	276	265	5	5	1
Boxford	279	258	7	2	12
Brent Eleigh	60	44	-	4	12
Brettenham	98	97	-	-	1
Chelsworth	55	41	-	11	3
Cockfield	248	220	-	14	14
Edwardstone	121	108	2	-	11
Elmsett	125	93	4	16	12
Groton	78	66	-	3	9
Hitcham	219	169	29	3	18
Kersey	152	136	4	5	7
Kettlebaston	26	21	-	-	5
Lavenham	587	533	42	1	11
Layham	134	96	-	18	20
Lindsey	63	50	7	2	4
Milden	48	47	-	-	1
Monks Eleigh	167	138	5	8	16
Nedging-with-Naughton	101	80	18	-	3
Polstead	208	178	-	10	20
Preston St. Mary	74	61	-	-	13
Semer	59	37	-	12	10
Thorpe Morieux	93	92	-	1	-
Wattisham	42	42	-	-	-
Whatfield	84	74	7	-	3
Total:	3,447	2,992 86½%	130 3¾%	115 3¼%	210 6½%

There were also 376 metered supplies at 31st December, 1961.

Plumbo-solvency. The water supplied through the Council's mains is not liable to have any plumbo-solvent action.

(ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. The three largest parishes in the district, i.e. Lavenham, Bildeston and Boxford (including Sherbourne Street, Edwardstone) have sewerage facilities serving all but the most outlying parts of the parishes.

These works are maintained by a staff of two and samples of effluent are taken regularly by the Essex River Board.

A scheme for the village of Kersey has been commenced by the Contractors and it is anticipated that the works will be in operation by the end of 1962.

Schemes for the villages of Monks Eleigh and Layham are in course of preparation. These schemes should go to tender during 1962/3.

In addition to the above public sewers, there are a number of small sewage disposal works throughout the district serving Council housing estates. Those works which do not give a satisfactory effluent are being enlarged and improved in conjunction with the Council's improvement schemes for Council houses. In certain cases a few neighbouring privately owned houses have been permitted to connect to these systems.

These various small works are maintained by a staff of two.

Every effort is made to keep all works in a satisfactory condition.

2. PUBLIC CLEANSING:

(i) Refuse Collection. The "kerbside" system of house refuse collection is in force throughout the district. Weekly collections take place in Lavenham, Boxford and Bildeston, with fortnightly collections in the remaining 22 parishes. The amount of refuse put out for collection continues to increase steadily and the schedule can only be maintained by the working of regular overtime.

Only one vehicle is in use although this is of the large fore and aft tipping variety. Considerable difficulties do, however, occur at times of public holidays or if the vehicle has to be withdrawn from service for repair.

Tipping has been carried out in a disposal site within the Hadleigh Urban District which has been shared with the Urban District Council. Comparatively few difficulties arise at this disposal point, but it is relatively remote from a considerable part of the area and mileage has therefore increased.

Regular treatment for the control of flies and rats was carried out.

(ii) Nightsoil Collection and Cesspool Emptying Service. Nightsoil is collected in five parishes and in the more built up part of three other parishes; the average number of pails dealt with each week is 370.

The same vehicle is also utilized for the emptying of private cesspools throughout the area. The Council's policy is to give one free emptying of his cesspool to each householder every year.

An average of fifty cesspools are emptied every month; the demands on this service, however, are steadily increasing owing to the raising of standards throughout the district. The number of cesspools or septic tanks is rising every month due to improvements which are being carried out, often with the help of improvement grants.

(iii) Sanitary Inspection of the Area. The following table records the number of inspections carried out:-

Number of visits - Public Health & Housing Acts	262
Housing Act, 1949 - Grant-aided Improvements	423
Tents, Vans and Sheds	36
Factories	23
Shops and Food Premises	57
Dairies	1
Water Samples - bacteriological	43
- chemical	1
Re water schemes	59
Private water supplies	6
Refuse Collection	58
Nightsoil Collection	49
Bakehouses	3
Slaughterhouses and meat inspections - butchers shops	92
Schools	3
Public houses	9
Building Inspections - Byelaw and Planning etc.	479
New drainage and closet conversions	213
Sewers	14
Sewage disposal works	242
Petroleum	25
Explosives	2
Housing Management	319

Notices served under the Public Health Act, 1936

Informal Notices outstanding 1st January, 1961	9
" " served during 1961	32
" " complied with during 1961	35
" " outstanding 31st December, 1961	6
Statutory Notices outstanding 1st January, 1961	6
" " served during 1961	2
" " complied with during 1961	6
" " outstanding 31st December, 1961	2

Factory Act, 1947 - Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health:

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority.	6	5	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	34	23	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority *(excluding outworkers).	23	102	Nil	Nil
	63	130	Nil	Nil

*i.e. Electrical Stations (Sections 103 (1), Institutions (Section 104) and sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Sections 107 and 108).

(iv) SHOPS AND OFFICES. Normal inspections of premises has been carried out under the Shops Act and it was not found necessary to take action against the occupiers of any of these premises.

(v) CAMPING SITES. At the 31st December, 1961, 21 licences under the Caravan Sites & Control of Development Act, 1961 were in force for the use of caravan sites. Of these, 16 were for single caravans, 3 for 2 caravans, 1 for 3 caravans and 1 for 6 caravans.

No cause for complaint was found at any of these sites during the year.

The Council have adopted standards for caravan sites in the district based on the Model Standards issued by the Ministry of Housing & Local Government and licences are issued subject to compliance with these standards.

(vi) SMOKE ABATEMENT. These are no heavy industries within the Rural District, which is therefore free from industrial atmospheric pollution.

There were no cases of smoke nuisance during the year.

(vii) SWIMMING BATHS. There are no public swimming baths within the Rural District.

(viii) RODENT CONTROL. The Council employ a full-time Rodent Operative, working under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector and Surveyor.

In addition to survey of the area, the Operator carries out treatment works to private dwellings, business and agricultural premises, local authority tips, sewers and other Council owned properties.

The treatment service to private dwellings is carried out free of charge, whilst for business premises and agricultural properties, the charge is based on an hourly rate.

In addition to his work in the Cosford District, the Rodent Operative also gives treatment within the Hadleigh Urban District on receipt of instruction from that Council who are recharged with the cost of the work.

The work of the Rodent Operative is indicated in the following table:-

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949
Report for Year ended 31st December, 1961.

	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling houses (inc. Council houses)	(3) All Other Premises	(4) Total of Cols. 1, 2 & 3	(5) Agricul- tural
1. No. of properties in Local Authority's District	25	3,363	306	3,694	297
2. No. of properties inspected as a result of					
(a) notification	-	128	8	136	19
(b) Survey under Act	21	1,257	126	1,404	176
(c) Otherwise	4	409	43	456	49
3. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections	Figures not readily available.				
4. No. of properties inspected in Section 2 which were found to be infested:-					
(a) Rats Major	1	26	2	29	29
Minor	16	455	13	484	39
(b) Mice Major	-	-	1	1	3
Minor	-	6	1	7	2
5. No. of infested properties (Sec. 4) treated by L.A.	17	487	17	521	73
6. Total treatments carried out including re-treatments	Figures not readily available.				
7. No. of notices served under Sec. 4 of the Act:-					
(a) Treatment	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Structural work	-	-	-	-	-
8. No. of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of notice	-	-	-	-	-
9. Legal Proceedings	-	-	-	-	-
10. No. of "Block" control schemes carried out	-	6	-	-	-

(ix) SCHOOLS. There are ten village schools in the district and all are supplied with water from the Council's mains.

The schools at Bildeston, Boxford and Lavenham have W.Cs. connected to the public sewers; the school at Monks Eleigh is drained to the sewage works serving the housing site; the school at Cockfield has W.Cs. and a cesspool; the remainder at Elmsett, Hitcham, Kersey, Polstead and Whatfield have Elsan closets.

(x) PUBLIC HOUSES: All public houses in the district have a water supply from the Council's mains and all are maintained in a good state of cleanliness; only a small proportion of the houses cater for meals.

The various brewery companies are still continuing to co-operate in improving the standards of their premises with regard to conveniences and to comply with the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

SECTION D

HOUSING

1.	(i)	(a)	Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	211
		(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	225
	(ii)	(a)	Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	19
		(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	29
	(iii)		Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	19
	(iv)		Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	96
2.	<u>Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices:-</u>			
			Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	78
3.	<u>Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-</u>			
	(a)	<u>Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, 12 and 39 of the Housing Act, 1957:-</u>		
		(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
		(2)	Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-	
		(a)	By owners	Nil
		(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
	(b)	<u>Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-</u>		
		(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
		(2)	Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	
		(a)	By owners	Nil
		(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
	(c)	<u>Proceedings under Sections 16, 17, 19, 21 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1957:-</u>		
		(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	3
		(2)	Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	3
		(3)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were made or Undertakings accepted not to re-let for human habitation	10
		(4)	Number of dwellinghouses closed in pursuance of Closing Orders or Undertakings	12
	(d)	<u>Proceedings under Sections 18, 19 and 27 of the Housing Act, 1957:-</u>		
		(1)	Number of parts of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
		(2)	Number of parts of dwellinghouses closed in pursuance of Closing Orders	Nil

(e) Proceedings under Sections 42 and 43 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

(1) Number of houses demolished in Clearance Areas Nil

(f) Housing subject to Demolition Orders, Closing Orders and Undertakings Not to Relet subsequently made fit to the satisfaction of the Council:-

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were revoked	2
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(2) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were suspended to allow work of improvement to proceed

(3) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Undertakings were cancelled after being made fit for habitation	5
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4. HOUSING. The Council's 1961 contribution of the housing needs of the district, in addition to the general repair and maintenance of existing houses, is indicated by the following summary.

During 1961 there were 33 Council houses built in the district, comprising 29 one-bedroom type, 4 two-bedroomed type and 11 private dwellinghouses. This is indicated in the following table which shows the post-war building:-

	Total Houses in the Parish	Total Council owned dwellings at 31.12.61.	Post-war Total	Council Houses Built in 1961	Houses Built in 1946-1960	Housing Acquired by Coun- cil and Improved	Total Pre-war & Emer- gency War houses	% of houses in Parish which are Council houses
Aldham	50	6	-	-	-	-	6	12%
Bildeston	276	107	84	-	84	-	23	39%
Boxford	279	63	44	-	44	-	19	23%
Brent Eleigh	60	12	2	-	2	-	10	20%
Brettenham	98	8	6	-	6	-	2	8%
Chelsworth	55	2	-	-	-	-	2	4%
Cockfield	248	54	34	-	34	-	20	22%
Edwardstone	121	24	12	-	12	-	12	20%
Elmsett	125	28	18	-	18	-	10	23%
Groton	78	12	-	-	-	-	12	15%
Hitcham	219	28	18	-	18	-	10	13%
Kersey	152	17	14	-	14	-	3	11%
Kettlebaston	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lavenham	587	153	119	29	90	4	30	26%
Layham	134	16	16	-	16	-	-	12%
Lindsey	63	6	2	-	2	-	4	10%
Milden	48	6	4	-	4	-	2	12%
Monks Eleigh	167	22	16	-	16	-	6	13%
Nedging-with- Naughton	101	18	4	4	-	-	14	18%
Polstead	208	38	28	-	28	-	10	19%
Preston St. Mary	74	6	4	-	4	-	2	8%
Semer	59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thorpe Morieux	93	14	8	-	8	-	6	15%
Wattisham	42	2	-	-	-	-	2	5%
Whatfield	84	39	20	-	20	-	19	46%
Total:	3,447	681	453	33	420	4	224	20%

Private houses built post-war	<u>Total</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1946-1960</u>
	181	11	170

Private houses in course of construction at 31.12.61. - 16
Council houses in course of construction at 31.12.61. - 6

Modernisation of the following Council houses was carried out during the year:-

- 1 - 4 & 6, Hadleigh Road, Boxford.
- 1 - 8, Groton Street, Edwardstone.
- 1 - 10, Crowcroft Road, Nedging-with-Naughton.
- 9 - 12, The Street, Whatfield.
- 17 - 18, Naughton Road, Whatfield.
- 19 - 20, ditto
- 21, 22 & 24, ditto

5. IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

(a) Discretionary. During 1961 schemes in respect of 18 dwellings were approved, the grants allocated totalling £5,920. These figures compare with 23 dwellings with a grant of £8,154 approved in 1960.

The total amount of grant approved since the inception of the scheme amounts to £60,313.

(b) Standard. During the past year 64 grants were approved with a total allocation of £7,420. This compares with 50 grants with a total of £6,630 approved in 1960.

The total amount of grants approved since the commencement of this scheme amounts to £18,715.

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SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Milk Supply.

Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959:
No. of Distributors on Register

2

All milk sold in the district is either Sterilised, Pasteurised or Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised).

(b) Ice-Cream.

There are no premises licensed for the manufacture of Ice-cream in the Rural District.

There are 30 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream, which is all of the pre-packed variety.

Mobile vans also operate in the district, but are based outside it. These are inspected from time to time and were found to be satisfactory.

The introduction of "soft" ice-cream which, at the moment, is sold only from mobile vans in this district will require greater vigilance in ensuring that a safe product reached the consumer.

(c) Meat and Other Foods.

Only two butchers slaughter their own meat the remainder obtaining their supplies from meat wholesalers. The two butchers with licensed slaughterhouses carefully select animals from local farms and the meat is of a very good quality.

During the year inspections of premises to which the Food Hygiene Regulations applied (including licensed premises) were carried out. The standard of fixtures and fittings in food shops continue to improve.

Every food shop has mains water connected and nearly all have satisfactory sanitary accommodation and drainage systems. Almost all the owners willingly co-operate in observing clean practice in the handling of food supplies.

Food Premises in the District:

Hotels and licensed premises	39
Restaurants and cafes	2
Grocers and general stores	30
Ice-cream premises	30
Confectioners	9
Butchers	8
Fishmongers	2
Dairies	2
Greengrocers	5
Bakers	4
Fried fishshops	1

Slaughterhouses Act, 1958

The report on slaughterhouse facilities in the district required by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food was prepared and submitted on the 28th October, 1960.

Briefly, the report stated that the two existing private slaughterhouses failed to comply with the regulations in certain respects and that the date by which the construction regulations should apply should be 1st April, 1962. This date was confirmed by the Minister.

The slaughterhouse occupied by C. Knewell, Boxford is in course of reconstruction and should be completed by this date.

No firm proposals have been received from Messrs. T. R. Emerson Limited, Bildeston.

Premises registered under the Food & Drugs Act, 1955 - Section 16:

Sausage manufacturers	8
Ice-cream premises	30

The registered sausage manufacturers are all butchers who make sausages as part of their general business. The inspections of these premises are included in the inspection of butchers shops.

Food Stalls:

There are no stalls from which food is sold in the Rural District.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

Regular routine visits to food premises have been carried out during the year and various minor contraventions of the Regulations have been discussed and explained to the proprietors. These contraventions have been rectified without recourse to statutory action.

Educational Activity Regarding Food Hygiene.

No clean food guilds have been inaugurated in the district. Copies of posters issued by the Ministry of Health drawing attention to the prevention of food poisoning by means of good hygiene practices, were issued to hotels and shops.

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SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF & CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The table following shows the number of Infectious Diseases notified to the Medical Officer of Health during the year.

					<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	1	5	6 (28)
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	27	18	45 (2)
Measles	...	....	...	...	65	64	129 (86)
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	1	4	5 (6)
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	2	-	2 (4)
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	-	-	- ( -)
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	-	-	- ( 5)
Infective Hepatitis	..	...	...	...	-	117	- (1)
					<hr/> 96	<hr/> 91	<hr/> 187 (132)

Measles:

Age incidence	Under 1	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 9	10 - 14
	3	7	13	12	8	79	7

Cases occurred mainly in	Lavenham	(32)
	Brettenham	(22)
	Elmsett	(19)
	Layham	(14)
	Cockfield	(10)

Whooping Cough:

Age incidence	Under 1	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 9	10 - 14	80 -
	4	-	4	3	3	23	7	1

Cases occurred mainly in	Boxford	(10)
	Edwardstone	(7)
	Bildeston	(7)
	Semer	(4)
	Lavenham	(4)

Diphtheria: No case occurred.

Diphtheria is still a deadly disease of childhood, which is kept at bay, by immunisation. Simple and effective protection against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus is provided by family doctors, and also at child welfare centres.

Whooping Cough is one of the most distressing illnesses for a child to have and for a mother to cope with. It attacks mainly children of age 5 to 8 years, causing in most cases, many weeks absence from school. Whooping cough can also be a most dangerous illness when it occurs in babies and very young children. The injections in babyhood can, in most cases, prevent this. Therefore, although it does require some courage for mothers to bring babies for their injections, the protection given is necessary and valuable.

T U B E R C U L O S I S

New Cases and Mortality

NEW CASES

	<u>1961.</u>	<u>1960.</u>	<u>1959.</u>	<u>1958.</u>	<u>1957.</u>	<u>1956.</u>	<u>1955.</u>	<u>1954.</u>	<u>1953.</u>
Pulmonary	4	1	3	2	1	4	4	5	5
Non-Pulmonary	-	-	1	2	2	1	Nil	3	4

MORTALITY. During 1961 there was one female death from respiratory tuberculosis.

(It is presumed that the other male removed from the register by death in 1961 was transferred out of Cosford R.D.)

The 4 new cases were children of one family suffering from primary pulmonary tuberculosis. These were contacts of a case notified in 1960.

